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Submitted by:	John M. S. Hoefer	r, Esquire	SC Bar Number:	2549	
Address:	P.O. Box 8416		Telephone:	803-252-3300	)
	Columbia, SC 29	<del></del>	-	803-771-2410	)
			Other:		
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☐ Electric		Affidavit	Letter		Request
☐ Electric/Gas		Agreement	Memorandum		Request for Certification
Electric/Telecon	mmunications	Answer	Motion		Request for Investigation
☐ Electric/Water		Appellate Review	Objection		Resale Agreement
Electric/Water/		Application	☐ Petition		Resale Amendment
Electric/Water/S	Sewer	Brief	Petition for Rec		Reservation Letter
Gas		Certificate	Petition for Rul	•	Response
Railroad		Comments	Petition for Rule		Response to Discovery
Sewer		Complaint	Petition to Inter		Return to Petition
☐ Telecommunica	itions	Consent Order	Petition to Interve		Stipulation
☐ Transportation		Discovery	Prefiled Testim	ony	Subpoena
☐ Water		Exhibit	Promotion		☐ Tariff
☐ Water/Sewer	<b></b>	Expedited Consideration	Proposed Order		Other: Annual Report
Administrative	Matter	Interconnection Agreement	Protest	•	
Other:		Interconnection Amendment		davit	
		Late-Filed Exhibit	Report		

### WILLOUGHBY & HOEFER, P.A.

ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW
930 RICHLAND STREET
P.O. BOX 8416
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202-8416

MITCHELL M. WILLOUGHBY JOHN M.S. HOEFER RANDOLPH R. LOWELL ELIZABETH ZECK\* BENJAMIN P. MUSTIAN MICHAEL R. BURCHSTEAD ANDREW J. MACLEOD

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN TX

AREA CODE 803 TELEPHONE 252-3300 TELECOPIER 256-8062

TRACEY C. GREEN
ALAN WILSON
SPECIAL COUNSEL

June 30, 2010

# **VIA HAND DELIVERY**

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd Interim Chief Clerk/Administrator **Public Service Commission of South Carolina** 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE: Annual Report of Cricket Communications, Inc. (f/k/a Hargray Wireless, LLC)

as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier

Dear Ms. Boyd:

This firm represents Cricket Communications, Inc. Enclosed please find the original and ten (10) copies of the above-referenced document. Please accept these documents for filing and acknowledge your receipt of same by returning a copy of this letter to me, bearing your file-stamp, via our courier.

Please be advised that the material attached to Exhibit 1 referenced in paragraph 4(a) of this Annual Report has been marked as "Confidential Information" and is being submitted under seal in a separate envelope marked "confidential" in accordance with Commission Order No. 2005-226 issued in Docket No. 2005-83-A and dated May 6, 2005. A redacted version of this material is included as required by Order No. 2005-226. Cricket Communications, Inc. hereby requests that the material designated as "Confidential Information" and enclosed in the separate envelope marked "confidential" be exempted from public disclosure in accordance with 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. R.103-804.S(2). The basis for this request is the same as that submitted to, and found to be appropriate by, the Commission in its Order No. 2006-415 in Docket No. 2003-227-C issued July 24, 2006.

By copy of this letter, we are providing a copy this filing to the Executive Director of the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS"). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. §58-4-55(C)(Supp. 2008), the "Confidential Information" referenced in the preceding paragraph is being provided to

(Continued . . .)

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd June 30, 2010 Page 2

ORS under seal and designated as "confidential or proprietary" information and therefore exempt from public disclosure by that agency as well.

Based upon the foregoing documentation, Cricket Communications, Inc. submits that it is in compliance with federal and state regulations and rules and respectfully requests that the Commission so notify the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company by October 1, 2010, so that federal support for Cricket Communications, Inc., for the upcoming fiscal year will be ensured as contemplated by Commission Regulation 103-690.1.B.a.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. With best regards, I am

Sincerely,

WILLOUGHBY & HOEFER, P.A.

John M.S. Hoefer

JMSH/cf Enclosures

cc: Honorable C. Dukes Scott Nanette S. Edwards, Esquire

# ANNUAL REPORT OF ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CRICKET COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2009

- 1. **Applicability** Hargray Wireless, LLC, was designated an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") by Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") Order No. 2007-804, Docket No. 2003-227-C, November 14, 2007. Effective December 31, 2008, Hargray Wireless, LLC, was merged into Cricket Communications, Inc. ("Cricket). Therefore, Cricket is making this annual report (1) pursuant to the requirement for same set out in said Order and (2) in accordance with the provisions of Commission Regulation 103-690.1
- 2. **Reporting Period** This Annual Report covers the period January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009.
- 3. **Service Commitment** Cricket commits to comply with Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association's Consumer Code for Wireless Service.
- 4. Information required by 103-690.1.B(b)
  - a. Two year service quality improvement plan progress report and update

See Exhibit 1.

### b. Outage information

There were no outages during the reporting period.

### c. <u>Unfulfilled service requests</u>

There were no unfulfilled service requests from potential customers in the ETC Area approved in Order No. 2007-804 for the period January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009. No applications for new service were held over 30 days. All commitments for service were fulfilled.

## d. Trouble reports

The number of complaints or trouble reports per thousand handsets during the reporting period was "0".

### e. CTIA consumer code certification

Cricket certifies that it is complying with Cellular Telecommunications and

Internet Association's Consumer Code for Wireless Service.

# f. Function in emergency situations

Cricket certifies that it is able to function in an emergency situation. A detailed report regarding Cricket's ability to address emergency situations is attached as Exhibit 2.

# g. Comparable local usage plan certification

Not applicable.

# h. Potential FCC equal access requirement certification

Cricket certifies that it is aware that the Federal Communications Commission may require that Cricket provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event that no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal access within the Cricket ETC designated area.

# i. Lifeline and Linkup customer count

As of December 31, 2009, Cricket served 92 Lifeline and Linkup customer(s).

# j. Lifeline verification or certification

The Lifeline Verification Survey or Certification filed with USAC on August 31, 2009, is attached as Exhibit 3.

### **CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the factual information set forth herein, and in the attachments hereto, is true and accurate except as to matters stated upon information and belief and, as to same, I believe them to be true and accurate.

Julie Buechler

Name

Hanagr Covernment Programs

Title

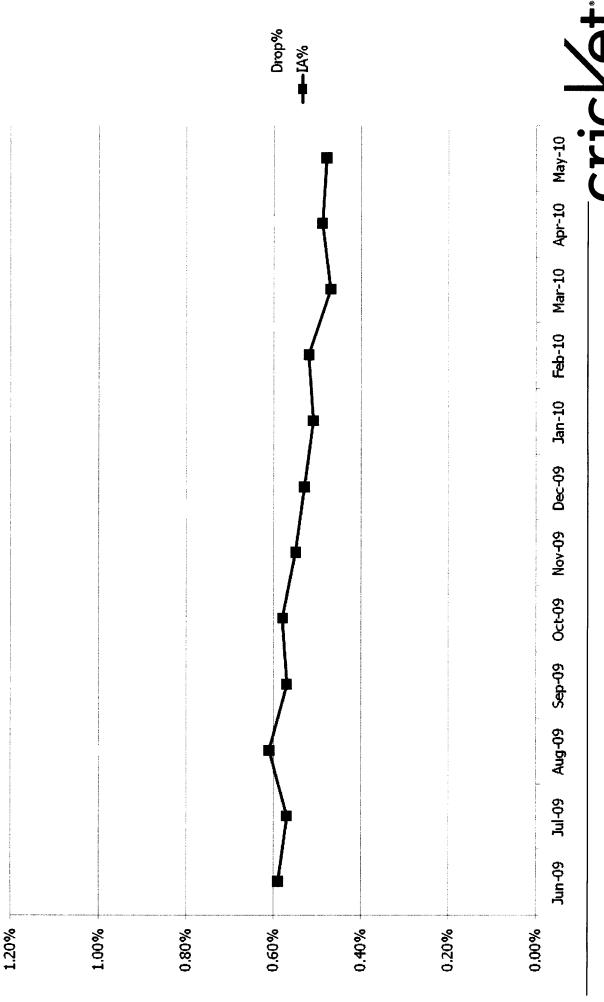
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### EXHIBIT 1

From its April 1, 2007, acquisition of Hargray Wireless, LLC, Cricket Communications, Inc. has devoted significant resources to modifications to the original system to provide for a more efficient method of expanding coverage in the ETC designated area. Since the last recertification filing in August of 2009, Cricket has added two new cell sites in the ETC designated area, specifically SAV-516 located west of Ridgeland, SC, and SAV-517, located south of Hampton SC, which went on line in May of this year. In addition, Cricket has moved three other cell sites to provide better coverage in other parts of its ETC designated area, namely, SAV-545 south of Beaufort, SAV 602 on St. Helena Island, and SAV 501 on Hilton Head Island. Further, Cricket has modified or repaired four other cell sites to provide substantial improvements in coverage or quality of coverage. These consisted of the change-out of antenna on two cell sites in Hardeeville, SC, replacement of an antenna and coaxial cable on a cell site in Bluffton, SC, and repair of coaxial cable at a cell site on Hilton Head Island, SC. Cricket estimates that it has increased the percentage of population ("POPs") covered in the ETC designated area by 813 as a result of these investments. Further, and as also shown in Attachment "1-A", for the twelve month period that ended May, 2010, the incidence of dropped calls has decreased in the ETC designated area from approximately 1% to less than 0.8% and the incidence of ineffective call attempts in the ETC designated area has decreased from approximately 0.60% to less than 0.5%. Further, as a result of upgrades in the prior year to the evolution data optimized (EVDO) standard, Cricket launched a new broadband product in 2009. Additionally, significant investment continues to be made to operate the upgraded switch serving the ETC designated area. Cricket has expended more investment dollars in the foregoing effort than the \$ 572,246 received from USAC in high cost support. Details of the investments described above are set forth on Attachment "1-B" hereto, for which Cricket seeks confidential treatment.

Cricket's projected two-year service quality improvement plan contemplates the addition of two new cell sites on new towers which will increase covered POPs by approximately 2,000 in the ETC designated area. Specifics of the investment required to implement this plan are also set forth on Attachment "1-B" for which Cricket seeks confidential treatment. Specifics of the planned cell site additions and enhancements to coverage are depicted on the maps included as Attachment "1-C", for which Cricket also seeks confidential treatment.

# 



cricket

# CONFIDENTIAL

# ATTACHMENT "1-B" TO EXHIBIT 1

### EXHIBIT 2

All mobile switching centers and cell sites have battery backup power. Also, each switching center has a dedicated diesel generator and there are several cell site generators in the market area. In instances of power outages, priority is set based upon traffic, cell site location and time of day. In certain parts of the service area, a cell on wheels (COW) can be deployed. In case of a total switch outage, a mobile command center may be established by each switch vendor.

# **Annual Lifeline Certification & Verification**

Complete Section 1, 2, or 3. Then complete the chart below.

1. Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) serving Federal Default State (complete columns A through E

and sign below)

July 2008 Edition

valid random sample of its Lifeline customers. Results company listed below, has procedures in place to review knowledge, the company was presented with documenta officer of the company named below. I am authorized to below.	are provided income docation of the co	in the char umentation onsumer's	n and that, to the b household income	that the est of my . I am an
OR				
2. Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) servin through C and sign below; complete columns D and E in	ng Non-Fede required by	eral Defau your state	lt State (complete commission)	columns A
I certify that the company listed below is in compliance place in the state(s) listed below. If any Lifeline custom income, I certify that the company listed below is in comprocedures and that, to the best of my knowledge, document the company named below. I am authorized to make this	ers of the con apliance with aentation of i	npany listo state Life ncome wa	ed below quality b line income certifi s presented. I am	ased on cation an officer of
OR				
3.  l certify that my company has not claimed federal (insert current year).	Low Income	e support fo	or any Lifeline cus	stomers in
A	В	С	D	E
A Company Name	B SAC (6 digit number)	C State	D Customers Surveyed or Verified	E Customers Found to be Ineligible*
	SAC (6 digit	Wilder W. Company	Customers Surveyed or	Customers Found to be
Company Name	SAC (6 digit number)	State	Customers Surveyed or	Customers Found to be
Company Name	SAC (6 digit number)	State S.C.	Customers Surveyed or	Customers Found to be
Company Name Conclus Convouve Capors, Tox	SAC (6 digit number) 249001 neligible colum	State  S.C.	Customers Surveyed or Verified	Customers Found to be

(Person Completing this Sample Letter)

(Date)

Submit to USAC using only **ONE** method:

5887 (00

(Company Address)

Fax to: (202) 776-0080

E-mail to: <u>LiVerifications@usac.org</u>
Mail to: Low Income Program

2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20036

# Deadline: August 31st

NOTICE: To implement Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, the Federal Communications Commission has adopted changes to the federal low-income programs. The Commission has expanded the availability of these programs and the level of funding for discounts to low-income customers.

The following worksheet provides a means by which eligible telecommunications carriers may provide their annual Lifeline verification survey results and annual low-income certifications to the Universal Service Administrative Company.

We have estimated that each response to this collection of information will take, on average, four (4) hours for each respondent. Our estimate includes the time to read this data request, review existing records, gather and maintain required data, and complete and review the response. If you have any comments on this estimate, or on how we can improve the collection and reduce the burden it causes you, please write the Federal Communications Commission, AMD-PERM, Washington, D.C. 20554, Paperwork Reduction Project (3060-0819). We will also accept your comments on the burden estimate via the internet if you send them to PRA@fcc.gov. Please DO NOT SEND the data requested to this e-mail address.

Remember You are not required to respond to a collection of information sponsored by the Federal government, and the government may not conduct or sponsor this collection, unless it has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. This collection has been assigned OMB Control Number: 3060-0819.

The FCC is authorized under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to collect the information we request in this form.

The foregoing Notice is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. No. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Section 3501, et seq.

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